

REMARKS


Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to place the above-identified application in more proper format under United States practice. By the present Preliminary Amendment the claims have been amended to no longer recite any improper multiple dependencies. New dependent Claims 65 and 66 are also set forth herein. The Abstract has also been amended by the present response to no longer recite any reference numerals or legal phraseology.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

--13. (Amended) A stage unit comprising:

a planar motor according to [any of] claim[s] 1 [through 12]; and

a stage member connected with the mover.

22. (Amended) An exposure apparatus comprising:

an illumination system sending out illumination light for exposure;

a stage unit according to [any of] claim[s] 14 [through 18], on which an object to be arranged in a path of the illumination light is mounted.

24. (Amended) An exposure apparatus comprising:

an illumination system sending out illumination light for exposure;

a stage unit according to claim 19 [or 20], on which an object to be arranged in a path of the illumination light is mounted.

45. (Amended) A driving method that drives a stage unit comprising a planar motor which comprises a stator having a coil and a mover having a magnetic flux generator, and which moves the mover on a movement plane, and a stage member moving as one entity with the mover,

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wherein upon moving the stage member is used a driving method of a planar motor according to [any of] claim[s] 33 [through 44].

54. (Amended) An exposure method comprising the steps of sending out illumination light for exposure and, by driving a stage unit on which an object is mounted, moving the object relative to a path of the illumination light,

wherein upon driving the stage unit is used a driving method of a stage unit according to [any of] claim[s] 46 [through 50].

56. (Amended) An exposure method comprising the steps of sending out illumination light for exposure and, by driving a stage unit on which an object is mounted, moving the object relative to a path of the illumination light,

wherein upon driving the stage unit is used a driving method of a stage unit according to claim 51 [or 52].--

Claims 65 and 66 (New).

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the abstract on page 95 as follows:

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ABSTRACT

By measuring respective inductances of coils that a stator [(60)] [comprises] includes by using an inductance measurement unit, an inductance distribution in the stator [(60)] is obtained, the inductances varying in accordance with the positional relation between the stator [(60)] and a mover [(51)] having a magnetic flux generator. And based on the obtained inductance distribution the two dimensional position and yaw of a stage member [(18)] is detected. By controlling the direction and amplitude of each of electric currents supplied to

the coils based on the detection result, the position of the stage member [(18)] is controlled.

As a result, regardless of the position and yaw of the stage member [(18)], the position of the stage member [(18)] can be controlled.--

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